

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, September 8, 2008

Present: Cheri Hall, Director Dave Marcotte

Al Gerew, Vice Chair Juliette Lopez-Recinos

Alice Lavigne, Secretary L. Kevin McDonald

Al Low Mike Karmozyn, Town Council Liaison

Absent: Debra Stockwell (Alternate Member)

Excused: Kurt Schatz, Chair

Guests: Joseph Laplume and Albert Carlow

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Al Gerew, Vice Chair, at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I.

Motion to accept minutes of August 18, 2008 regular meeting by David Marcotte. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 6-0.

Correspondence:

The Director reviewed a letter from Sue Sgambatto regarding Relay for Life scheduled to take place in Burrillville at Branch River Park this year. Discussion took place regarding the letter stating that no assistance from the Parks and Recreation Department or Commission is needed. The stipulation from the Zoning Board was approval only if the Parks and Recreation Director were involved in overseeing the event. The letter also requests to change to the food tent location to the field inside the track and tents on the outside the fenced track area. The Parks and Recreation Director and Commission would be required to be in charge of logistics per the Zoning Board requirement. The commission requested the Director set up meeting with Sue Sgambatto to discuss their requests and then report back to the commission.

A gentleman called the Parks & Recreation office requesting to put a Letterbox on the trails behind the Burrillville Middle School. A Letterbox is a type of treasure hunt game where a box with a stamp in it is placed at the location and the participants stamp their book. The Director stated she would notify the Burrillville Middle School. The commission did not have any problem with this placement.

Good & Welfare:

Albert Carlow reported trying to contact the Planning Department regarding the newspaper article approving specs and plans for the new bike trail abutting Mr. Carlow's property. The Director stated the current priority is for a bond to purchase the property as open space.

The Director stated the Town Planner Tom Kravitz wanted to make Mr. Carlow aware of the possibility of a development of some kind versus open space on the abutting property. Mr. Carlow stated it is not buildable property due to swamp land for a development. Mr. Carlow questioned why planning for the trail are proceeding when the abutting property owners do not want it. The Director explained public hearings will take place to voice any community concerns.

A motion to amend the August 18, 2008 Recreation Commission minutes stating that any mention of Albert Carlow being a Burrillville Police Officer be deleted and changed to “abutting property owner” was made by L. Kevin McDonald. Seconded by Dave Marcotte. Motion passed 6-0.

Old Business:

Sub-committee report-Ordinance-No report

Doors Recreation Center

Boisclair lock stated the existing panic hardware could be repaired with replacement parts to be ordered at a cost of approximately \$600.

League Budgets/C.I.P.

The Director reported that she imputed the league budget figures and the allocations remain approximately the same as last year. The Director stated that an increase for next year budget should be brought forward to the Budget Board due to the increased expenses

each league is having to expend. After the league funding is allocated, it leaves only \$1,000 for the departments emergency programming expenses and the new football program would be requesting funding next year. The Director stated that in 1989 the programming budget was decreased from \$10,000 to \$5,000 due to a special referendum and has not been increased since. The purpose is to keep the recreational league fees low to allow all children to participate.

Youth Football League

The Director stated the football league is currently utilizing one set of lights on one field Monday through Friday. Since Pascoag Utility District has re-analyzed the use of the lights to reduce the fee to 75% of the peak usage, the cost has decreased from \$900 to approximately \$600 per month at Hauser field. Since the league is just starting up and we don't have funding this year for a budget allocation, the Director's recommendation is to replace an appropriation with what the light fees would have cost the league. Dave Marcotte stated it might not be fair to the other leagues that might need additional funding. Dave Marcotte stated that when the football league was proposed to the commission, they were told there would be a light fee. There is no increase in the actual monthly electric bill for the football leagues usage of the lights at Hauser field.

L. Kevin McDonald recommended tabling this item until December to allow for review the actual utility bills for Hauser field.

Motion to table this item until December 2008 was made by Dave Marcotte. Seconded by Al Low. Motion passed 6-0.

Spring Lake Beach

The final Spring Lake Beach income report was reviewed by the commission. Last year the total income was \$144,000 and this year's total income is \$143,000. The revenue in July 2008 was higher than last year but August 2008 was lower due to the weather. Passes for families were lower this year with general admissions and recreation hall rentals approximately the same. Collection of some returned checks is being investigated. Due to this issue, as of August 2008 personal checks were not being accepted.

The lease contracts for the restaurant/ice cream and arcade are up for renewal for 2009 and 2010. The Director reported no problems with the current two businesses and recommends that administratively to renew for the additional two years. The lease agreements state the agreement is for 3 years and then can be renewed administratively for an additional two years of 2009 and 2010.

Juliette Lopez-Recinos recues herself from this item and has abstained from voting.

Motion to extend the Arcade and Concession leases for another two

years was made by L. Kevin McDonald. Seconded by Alice Lavigne. Motion passed 5-0.

Tennis Courts

The Director will be contacting Town Manager Michael Wood regarding the C.I.P. appropriation for tennis court repairs at Branch River Park. U.S.T.A. denied funding for the project and the state funding is not currently for this type of project. A U.S.T.A. equipment grant was received for \$500.

Coaches Training

Coaches Training will be scheduled in a couple of weeks to include the Fencing coaches, remaining Football coaches and the Burrillville Youth Basketball coaches to participate.

New Business:

Pascoag Utilities

(Discussed above under Youth Football League item)

Snakes Alive Road Race

The Director distributed flyers and registration forms to the commission. This year the registration numbers and the business donations are down. Donations are down due to lack of committee volunteerism to assist in contacting businesses. A new t-shirt company will be utilized at \$3.95 per shirt. The commission members were asked to come and help out if possible.

Duck Race

The Duck Race is September 21, 2008 with approximately the same number tickets being sold but with only a few volunteers selling the tickets. A suggestion is to alternate fundraisers might be a solution.

D.E.M. Trails Grant

(Discussed above under Good and Welfare item)

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made L. Kevin McDonald. Seconded by Dave Marcotte. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Motion Passed 6-0.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks & Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859

Recorded by

Carol L. Conway

Administrative Aide

Burrillville Parks & Recreation Department

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